(a) whether it is a fact that Government had in the recent past approved restructuring plan for Praga Tools Ltd. (PTL), a PSU in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the present status of the restructuring of PTL?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) Government approved a part restructuring plan of Praga Tools Ltd. (PTL) in 1998. The following assistance was to be provided as per the plan.

1) Equity support for Rs. 10.49 crore towards reimbursement of cash losses.

2) Rs. 9.95 crore by way of equity for payment of statutory dues.

3) NRF support of Rs. 8.55 crore for manpower rationalization.

4) Government guarantee in favour of State Bank of Hyderabad to cover their entire exposure amounting to Rs. 36.47 crore.

(c) The above assistance has already been provided to PTL.

Sickness in CPSUs

†561. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that industrial sickness in Central undertakings in increasing year after year;

(b) if so, the number of undertakings found sick and running in losses as on 31st January, 2003; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to bring about improvement in their functioning or to close down them?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) The number of industrial sick Central Public Sector Undertakings (CPSUs)

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

registered with BIFR was 66 as on 31.3.1999 and 68 as on 31.12.2002, till which period information is available. Further, as per Public Enterprises Survey 2000-01 which was laid in the Parliament on 7.3.2002 and is a published document, during 2000-01, till which period the information in respect of profitability is available, 59 of the 68 CPSUs had incurred losses.

(c) Enterprise specific measures are taken for performance improvement of the CPSUs which include formulation of revival schemes, periodic review of the performance by the concerned administrative Ministry/Department, business and financial restructuring, infusion of fresh funds, implementation of purchase preference policy, cost control measures, rationalization of manpower, etc. When all the options for revival fail then only closure is considered as the last resort.

Posts lying vacant in PSUs

562. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many Board level posts are lying vacant in the Public Sector Undertakings;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefore;

(c) the steps taken to fill them; and

(d) the names of undertakings which are slated for disinvestment and the impact of disinvestment on the number of board level posts of these undertakings?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (c) 28 posts of Chief Executives and 79 posts of functional Directors were vacant in different PSUs as on 31.12.2002. The details of these posts are given in Statement. (*See* below) The vacancies have arisen due to varous reasons like retirement, completion of tenure etc. Out of the 107 vacancies, selection has been made by the Public Enterprises Selection Board in 71 cases, 14 posts are kept in abeyance, deputation is being considered in 4 cases and the selection process is on in 18 cases.

(d) Names of PSUs slated for disinvestments are in Statement-II.